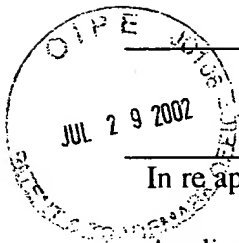


08-01-02

1614

PATENT



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Armitage et al.

Attorney Docket No.:

HASLP004/HL52257

Application No.: 09/673,074

Examiner: Fay, Zohreh

Filed: February 26, 2001

Group: 1614

Title: OCULAR IRRIGATING SOLUTION

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## CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents and/or fees referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on July 29, 2002 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10, Mailing Label Number **EL937779646US** addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

*Ryan P. Eachus*

Ryan Eachus

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents  
Box Amendment Fee  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

	Claims After Amendment		Highest Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity Rate Fee	Large Entity Rate Fee
Total Claims	19	MINUS	20	0	x 9 = 0	x 18 =
Independent Claims	2	MINUS	3	0	x 42 = 0	x 84 =
Multiple Dependent Claim Present and Fee Not Previously Paid					\$140.00	\$280.00
Total					\$0	\$

- ☒ Applicant(s) hereby petition for a three- month extension(s) of time to respond to the aforementioned Office Action.
- ☒ Applicant(s) believe that no (additional) Extension of Time is required; however, if it is determined that such an extension is required, Applicant(s) hereby petition that such an extension be granted and authorize the Commissioner to charge the required fees for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136 to Deposit Account No. 500388.
- ☒ Enclosed is our Check No. 6010 in the amount of \$460.00 to cover the additional claim fee and/or extension of time fees.
- ☒ Please charge the required fees, or any additional fees required to facilitate filing the enclosed response, to Deposit Account No. 500388 (Order No. HASLP004).

08/02/2002 HDEMSS1 00000088 09673074

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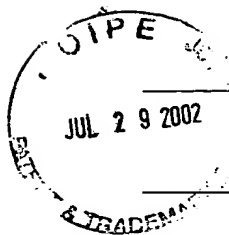
460.00 0P

Respectfully submitted,  
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

*William J. Plut*

William J. Plut

Limited Recognition Under 37 C.F.R. 10.9(b)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Armitage et al.

Application No.: 09,673,074

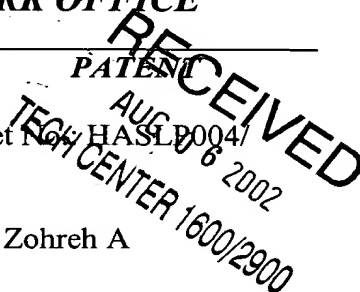
Filed: February 26, 2001

Title: OCULAR IRRIGATING SOLUTION

Attorney Docket No. HASLP0041  
HL52257

Examiner: Fay, Zohreh A

Group: 1614



CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

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Ryan Eachus

*Ryan P. Eachus*

*12/13*  
*Charm*  
*9/1/12*

**RESPONSE A**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Amendment Fee  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This reply and the enclosed remarks are submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed on January 30, 2002. Applicants submit that the attached amendments and remarks fully address the issues raised in the Office Action.

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the Claims:**

- B1* *8/1/12*
1. (Once Amended) A method of irrigating the eye of a patient during surgery comprising supplying to the eye a solution consisting essentially of a source of bicarbonate ions, a physiologically acceptable organic buffer which is an organic zwitterionic buffer having a buffering capacity within the range pH 6.8 to 8.0, and optionally a source of phosphate ions and/or source of electrolytes necessary to maintain physiological function and/or an energy source.
  2. (Once Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the organic buffer maintains the solution at a pH in the range 7.2 to 7.8.
  3. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the organic buffer is a zwitterionic amino acid.
  4. (Once Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein the organic buffer is N-2-(hydroxyethyl) piperazine-N'-(2-ethanesulfonic acid).